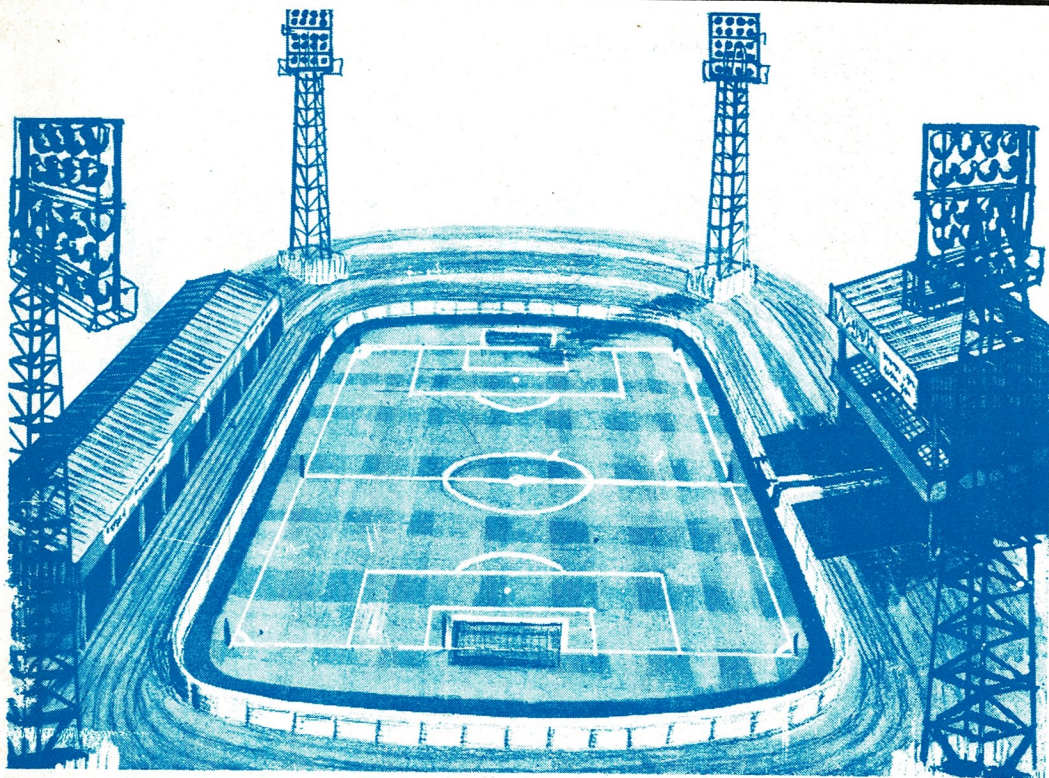


ATHLETIC

WIGAN

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME — 15p



FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 4

v.

HEREFORD UNITED

WEDNESDAY, 28th MARCH, 1979 — Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

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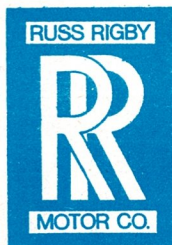
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OUR VISITORS

Hereford United have, over the past seven seasons, had quite a remarkable existence. In 1972/73 they became Associate Members of the Football League when elected to Division 4, at the expense of Barrow by 29 votes to 20.

A remarkably successful season as new members of the 4th Division saw them gain promotion to the 3rd Division by finishing the season as runners-up to Southport with 58 pts. Southport had 62 pts. (That year the champions of every English League were Lancashire Clubs, namely (Div. 1) Liverpool, (Div. 2) Burnley, (Div. 3) Bolton, and (Div. 4) Southport).

In 1975-6 they became champions of Division 3, thereby becoming full members of the Football League as a Second Division club. (Full membership of the Football League is confined to the 1st and 2nd Division clubs).

Unfortunately, their fall and return to Division 4 was even more rapid than their rise, but I feel sure the experience they must have gained over the past seven years will soon

guide them once again to higher circles.

During the time they have spent in the League many improvements have been made to their picturesque Edgar Road ground. A new stand on the popular side, parallel to the pitch, considerably increases the seating capacity. Being in the right part of the country helps them to keep the playing area covered with probably the best turf possible. They have well appointed boardroom, guest rooms and dressing rooms, and an elaborate supporters club which considerably helps their finances.

In 1972 they became F.A. Cup giant killers by forcing a replay at Newcastle in the 3rd Round and then winning the replay.

During their years in the Southern League they gained all possible honours except the F.A. Challenge Trophy finalists—this game has an added attraction because it is always played at Wembley.

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FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK

This evening we welcome Hereford United to Springfield Park. We trust they enjoy their trip to Wigan because we certainly enjoyed our trip to Hereford in our first competitive League match. We have fond memories of the treatment we received and as we managed to gain our first League point, it was most certainly a day to remember. It was also a highly entertaining match and I trust this evening's encounter will be equally good.

Noel Ward

I would like everyone to be put in the picture as far as Noel is concerned. In letting our centre-half go to Chelsea for a couple of days I was not setting a precedent. In fact I

would generally be against players going on trial, as I don't think it is fair on the player. My main idea was to enhance Noel's chance of a Cap and thus realising his ambition to play for his country.

As far as Noel's worth to Wigan Athletic is concerned, I would say at this particular time, it would take something special for us to even contemplate releasing him. I would say this applies to all our players.

I can foresee quite a lot of success in League football for our lads. I only hope that their success is gained here at Springfield Park.

Enjoy this evening's match.

I. McNEILL.

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 4

WIGAN ATHLETIC v. A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH

SATURDAY, 31st MARCH, 1979 — Kick-off 3-0 p.m.

LANCASHIRE LEAGUE

SATURDAY, 7th APRIL, 1979 — Kick-off 2-30 p.m.

Wigan Athletic Reserves v. Manchester United 'A'

EDITORIAL

Hereford United and Wigan Athletic have quite a lot in common. For many years they were non-league clubs aspiring to become members of the Football League. In 1971 the Herefordshire F.A. chose by invitation Wigan Athletic as Hereford's County Cup Final opponents—the game being played at Edgar Road—and Hereford winning by 1 goal to 0.

In December 1953 Wigan Athletic drew Hereford at home in the F.A. Cup 2nd Round. This game provided a record gate for two non-league clubs (outside Wembley) of 27,500, and it is doubtful if this will ever be beaten. Wigan won this game 4-0 and were drawn against Newcastle in the 3rd Round at St. James' Park, the game resulted in a draw. Some 18 years later, Hereford were drawn away at Newcastle and, like Wigan, forced the mighty North East Div. 1 side to a replay.

In 1972 Hereford were elected to the Football League exactly the same way as Wigan did in 1978, after a tie on the first vote both clubs were eventually elected by 29 votes to 20.

Eric Redrobe, a Wigan lad whose parents and family live only a stone's throw from Springfield Park, became a Hereford hero after his transfer from Southport in 1974. Eric has been employed by the club until recently.

In Hereford's first season in the Football League they gained promotion by being runners-up to South-

port. At that time our present chairman, Arthur Horrocks, was on the board at Southport.

Finally, when Wigan became members of the Football League in 1978, our first league fixture was at Hereford, where we drew 0-0. On that occasion, Hereford chairman, Mr. P. S. Hill, presented the Wigan chairman with a statue of the famous Herefordshire Bull. This ornament is, and always will be, a coveted possession displayed in the board room.

Will we emulate Hereford's feat of promotion in the first season? I make no prophecy after our win at Rochdale thereby gaining a top four place, but it now seems quite a possibility, as the top seven clubs have quite a fixture list: Aldershot and Barnsley have still to visit Wimbledon; Reading have Grimsby, Portsmouth and Aldershot at home; Wimbledon have Barnsley and Aldershot at home and Portsmouth away; Portsmouth have Barnsley and Reading away, and so on — each promotion candidate is capable of killing the other — so it promises a thrilling run-in.

It appears that Wimbledon could hold the key of the door and, of course, even they could still fail, as they have such a backlog in their fixtures. Points in the bag are good points, as they have been won, but obviously we shall know more after the Easter fixtures have been completed, and at the present time we feel very hopeful.

PEN PICTURES OF HEREFORD UNITED F.C.

TOMMY HUGHES (Goalkeeper)

Joined Hereford United in August 1973 from Aston Villa, having previously had spells with Brighton (on loan) and Chelsea. Born in Dalmeir, Scotland, Tommy is a former Scottish under-23 international.

CHRIS PRICE (Defender)

Local born, Chris attended the Haywood High School in Hereford before signing for United as an apprentice in May 1976, having previously been an Associated Schoolboy with our club. Was upgraded to full professional status in January of this year and played for the England Youth Team last season. Made his first team debut against Notts County in April 1977.

STUART CORNES (Defender)

Born in Usk, Gwent, but later moved to Cwmbran, Gwent, where he attended Croesyceiliog Secondary School. Joined Hereford as an apprentice in July 1976 and was upgraded to full professional in January of this year. A former Welsh Schoolboy International, Stuart made his debut for Hereford against Chester in January 1978, and finished last season with 13 first team appearances.

JOHN LAYTON

Hereford born. John attended the local Whitecross Secondary School before he joined Hereford United as an amateur in 1967. He left Hereford to play for Gloucester City and later Kidderminster Harriers before rejoining Hereford to sign as a part-time professional in 1974 when he made his first team debut. Has since made 125 first team appearances.

PHIL BURROWS (Defender)

Born in Stockport and first played for Bury as an amateur before joining Manchester City, also as an amateur, where he continued his studies to qualify as a quantity surveyor. Transferred to York City in 1966 where he spent eight years, setting up a new club record of 250 consecutive league appearances. He then joined Plymouth Argyle and was transferred to Hereford in August 1976.

STEVE EMERY (Defender)

Born in Ledbury where he attended the local Ledbury Secondary School. Steve was Hereford's first apprentice professional when the club was elected to the Football League in 1972. Made his league debut in February 1974, and has since completed over 180 first team appearances.

ANDY FEELEY

Born in Hereford and attended the local Haywood High School, and gained thirty County Schoolboy caps over three seasons. Previously an associated schoolboy with United, he signed apprentice forms in May of last year.

IAN HENDRY

WINSTON WHITE

BOBBY GOULD

WAYNE POWELL (Forward)

Transferred in July of last year from Bristol Rovers the club he joined directly from school as an apprentice professional. Born in Newport, Gwent, Wayne gained 14 Welsh International Youth Caps. Made 42 first team appearances for Bristol Rovers and also four first team appearances while on loan to Halifax Town.

KENNY STEPHENS (Winger)

Although born in Bristol, Ken served his apprenticeship with West Bromwich Albion before being transferred to Walsall. He later joined Bristol Rovers and was a regular member of that team for several years before signing for Hereford in Oct. 1977. Made his debut for United against Bradford City in October 1977 and completed 26 league appearances for our club during last season.

NEW AND REBUILT

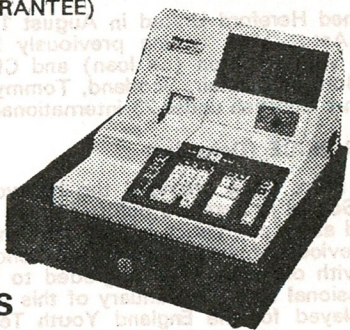
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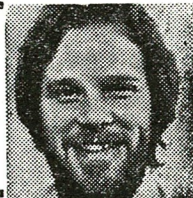
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LATICS LINE

by Nick Duxbury



Wigan Athletic's promotion hopes took a knock on Saturday from a 3-1 defeat at Grimsby Town, a result which shot The Mariners into top spot and prompted manager John Newman to give a revealing insight into Division 4 football.

Mr. Newman claimed that there were clubs and players in Division 4 who fight shy of success because they haven't got the nerve to cope with the stresses and strains of promotion.

Talking about Grimsby's immediate future, Mr. Newman, a Leicester City teammate of Latics boss Ian McNeill, said that whether or not The Mariners started next season in Division 4 depended entirely on the players.

He said, "I've done my job already. I keep telling them that they are good enough, that we are in the running, and I ask them what are they going to do about it?"

"I put the question, because I know that some players and some clubs avoid success because of all the hassles it brings.

"There are players who just do enough each season to be retained. They amble along, picking up their wages, and their heart really isn't in the club.

"They can get along quite comfortably thank you, without having to work hard. Promotion changes all that. It's a hard fight."

The Grimsby manager added: "If I thought anybody here was not putting everything he had into getting us into Division 3, he would be out.

"But you still rely on a player to give you 100 per cent commitment. Only the player can provide it.

"No matter how much encouragement a manager gives, it boils down in the end to the players' performances on the pitch.

"I think we have got that commitment at Grimsby."

And after Latics' experience at Blundell Park, there will be few people in the Springfield Park camp who doubt it.

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



May I personally welcome to Springfield Park tonight the Hereford chairman Mr. Peter Hill, his directors, officials and team. I hope they have had a pleasant journey to Wigan and enjoy the game, which we hope will be as good, or even better, than the opening fixture of the season at Hereford.

To reach the top four in our first season in the Football League would have been beyond even our wildest dreams last August, but after our win at Rochdale last week we attained that honour, and now at this stage of the season we must feel that our chances of promotion are very likely, and if we gather in points as we have done since the New Year all the teams within striking distance will also have to win their games, and that is made more difficult, and

perhaps in our favour, that many of the top clubs have still to meet each other. However, whatever our final position, the season will have been most successful, and we directors appreciate the manager, players and staff for the wonderful efforts made. Spectators have also helped by keeping our home gates average over the 7,000 mark and giving their full support away from home.

Mr. McNeill's programme write-up last week discouraging the boo boys was I thought a well timed article. But I am given to understand that at Saturday's game with Stockport Mike Summerbee was booed off the field when he called for the sub. I was not at the game, having to represent Wigan Athletic at the Football League Cup Final at Wembley, but I would have been very unhappy and disappointed if I had witnessed this unwelcome outburst to a visiting player. The Stockport contingent, including their manager, Mike Summerbee, have been very friendly towards us since we entered the Football League. It is understood that Mike did not intend to play (he had a pulled muscle) but was forced into duty through the weather conditions, resulting in three of his players not being able to get through. That surely is the quality of a true professional, and when he pulled himself off for the sub. there should have been applause, not abuse.

ARTHUR HORROCKS.

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FOOTBALL LEAGUE — DIVISION 4

WEDNESDAY, 28th MARCH, 1979 — Kick-off 7-30 p.m.

LINE-UP

Wigan Athletic	Referee : Mr. C. N. SEEL (Carlisle) Linesmen : Mr. J. Constable (Blackburn) Red Flag Mr. H. D. Galley (Huddersfield) Yellow Flag	Hereford United
1 John Brown 2 Kevin Smart 3 Joe Hinnigan 4 Tommy Gore 5 Noel Ward 6 Dave Fretwell 7 Frank Corrigan 8 Jeff Wright 9 Derek Brownbill 10 Mickey Moore 11 Ian Purdie 12 Alan Crompton	FOR YOUR RECORD Result : Attendance : Scorers :	1 Tommy Hughes 2 Chris Price 3 Stuart Cornes 4 John Layton 5 Phil Burrows 6 Steve Emery 7 Andy Feeley 8 Ian Hendry 9 Winston White 10 Bobby Gould 11 Wayne Powell 12 Kenny Stephens

Tonight's Referee

COLIN SEEL (Carlisle).

Started refereeing in 1961 and from local leagues progressed via Northern Regional, Northern Floodlit, Central and Irish League to the Football League full list. Has refereed a number of important League matches and officiated in an F.A. Cup semi-final and an Amateur Cup final at Wembley, as well as Anglo-Italian and Fairs Cup matches in Italy and Spain. He is married with two daughters. Keen on gardening, and enjoys all sports and fell walking.

FOCUS ON DEREK BROWNBILL

<i>Full Name :</i>	Derek Anthony Brownbill.
<i>Birthplace :</i>	Liverpool.
<i>Birthdate :</i>	4th February, 1954.
<i>Height :</i>	5 ft. 10½ ins.
<i>Weight :</i>	12 st. 6 lbs.
<i>Previous Clubs :</i>	Liverpool, Port Vale.
<i>Married :</i>	Yes. Joyce.
<i>Children :</i>	No.
<i>Car :</i>	Cortina.
<i>Favourite player :</i>	Denis Law, Tony Currie.
<i>Favourite other team :</i>	Liverpool.
<i>Most difficult opponent :</i>	John Roberts, Birmingham/Wrexham.
<i>Most memorable match :</i>	Debut for Liverpool v. Birmingham, 1st Div.
<i>Biggest thrill :</i>	Scoring winner for Port Vale v. Burnley, 5th Round F.A. Cup.
<i>Biggest disappointment :</i>	Losing F.A. Youth Cup Final.
<i>Best country visited :</i>	Luxembourg, America.
<i>Favourite food :</i>	Steak, Fresh Fish.
<i>Miscellaneous likes :</i>	Restaurants, holidays abroad.
<i>Miscellaneous dislikes :</i>	Bigheads, cold weather.
<i>Favourite TV shows :</i>	When The Boat Comes In, Sweeney.
<i>Favourite singers :</i>	Rod Stewart, Barry Manilow, The Beatles.
<i>Favourite actors :</i>	Ryan O'Neil, Alan Bates.
<i>Best friend:</i>	Terry Bailey (Northwich Vic's. player).
<i>Biggest influence on career :</i>	Tom Saunders (Liverpool Youth Coach).
<i>Biggest drag in soccer :</i>	Not playing, losing.
<i>International honours :</i>	None.
<i>Personal ambition :</i>	To be healthy and happy.
<i>Professional ambition :</i>	Promotion for Wigan and to play for a long time
<i>If not in football, what would you like to be :</i>	P.E. Teacher.
<i>Which person in the world would you most like to meet :</i>	The Queen.

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LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE (DIVISION 1)

Wigan Athletic Reserves

1978

August—	F-A
18—Blackpool 'A' H	2-1
25—Southport Res. H	1-1

September—

2—Everton 'A' A	2-1
9—Chester 'A' H	1-3
15—Tranmere R. Res. A	0-0

16—

23—Bradford City Res. H	5-0
30—Liverpool 'A' A	1-2

October—

7—Rochdale Res. H	2-2
14—Rochdale Res. A	0-1
21—Carlisle Utd. Res. H	2-0
27—Stockport County 'A' A	8-0

November—

11—Tranmere R. Res. H	2-2
18—Crewe Alex 'A' A	3-3
25—Manchester City 'A' A	2-1

December—

2—Blackpool 'A' H	
9—Port Vale Res. H	3-1
13—Macclesfield T. Res. H	5-1
16—Chester 'A' A	
26—	
30—Morecambe Res. A	5-0

1979

January—	F-A
1—Oldham Ath. Res. H	1-3
6—Morecambe Res. H	3-1

13—Port Vale Res. A	
20—Manchester City 'A' H	
27—Macclesfield T. Res. A	

February—

3—Bradford City Res. A	
10—Crewe Alex Res. H	5-0
17—Manchester Utd. 'A' A	2-2
24—Oldham Ath. Res. A	1-4

March—

3—Carlisle Res. A	1-3
8—Stockport County 'A' H	4-2
17—Bolton Wanderers 'B' A	5-0
24—Bolton Wanderers 'B' H	
31—Wrexham Res. A	

April—

7—Manchester Utd. 'A' H	
13—Southport Res. A (Fri.)	
15—Wrexham Res. H	
16—	
21—Liverpool 'A' H	
28—	

May—

5—Everton 'A' H	
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